

LIFE-SAVING STATION, POINT ARENA, CALIFORNIA.

JANUARY 30, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CORLISS, from the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 9949.]

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9949) entitled "A bill to provide a life-saving station at or near Point Arena, Mendocino County, in the State of California," beg leave to submit the information received from the Treasury Department showing public necessity for this legislation, and recommend that the bill do pass.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D. C., January 15, 1897.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your reference, of the 13th instant of bill H. R. 9949, "To provide a life-saving station at or near Point Arena, Mendocino County, in the State of California," and asking for suggestions touching its merits and the propriety of its passage.

In reply, I have to state that the matter was referred to the General Superintendent of the Life-Saving Service for report, which has been received and is herewith transmitted, with my concurrence.

Respectfully, yours,

W. E. CURTIS, *Acting Secretary.*

The CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE,
House of Representatives.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT LIFE-SAVING SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., January 15, 1897.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge your reference for report of the letter of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, dated the 13th instant, transmitting bill (H. R. 9949) "to provide a life-saving station at or near Point Arena, Mendocino County, in the State of California," for suggestions touching the merits of the bill and the propriety of its passage.

In reply, I would respectfully submit the following extract from my report made to you yesterday on a communication from the Committee on Commerce of the Senate transmitting bill S. 3320, which is identical in terms with the bill upon which you now request report:

"Point Arena is not far from midway between the two nearest life-saving stations—the Humboldt Bay station, on the north, and the Point Reyes station, on the south—which are nearly 200 miles apart, and is the most dangerous place upon this stretch of coast. The dangers are chiefly due to the fact that the point is the extreme western limit of land, and vessels sailing along the coast, having to change their courses off this headland, approach it to bring the land in sight by day or the light located upon it by night, and are in danger of being brought within the influence of the strong inshore current and the heavy swells which prevail there. The records of this office show that since the year 1886 12 disasters have occurred in this immediate vicinity, in which 15 lives were lost, and property to the amount of \$436,800 out of \$485,600 involved, 7 of the vessels being total losses.

"The interests of commerce and humanity would be subserved by the passage of the bill."

Respectfully, yours,

S. I. KIMBALL,
General Superintendent.

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

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